## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

In al Application No PCT/GB2004/004929

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 C12N15/68 C12N15/64 A61K35/74

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## **B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 C12N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, EMBASE, BIOSIS, PAJ

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to daim No.
X	WO 97/14805 A (BIOSTAR, INC) 24 April 1997 (1997-04-24)	1-9, 13-25, 38-45
Y	page 6, line 20 - page 7, line 2	10-12, 26-37
	page 12, line 1 - page 16, line 30; claims	
Y	BRANTL SABINE: "Antisense RNAs in plasmids: Control of replication and maintenance." PLASMID, vol. 48, no. 3, November 2002 (2002-11), pages 165-173, XP002327899 ISSN: 0147-619X cited in the application	10-12
ļ	the whole document	

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	Patent family members are listed in annex.
Special categories of cited documents:  A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance  E earlier document but published on or after the international filling date  L document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)  O document reterring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means  P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	<ul> <li>"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</li> <li>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</li> <li>"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.</li> <li>"&amp;" document member of the same patent family</li> </ul>
Date of the actual completion of the international search  11 May 2005	Date of mailing of the international search report  30/05/2005
Name and mailing address of the ISA  European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo ni, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer  Madruga, J

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Ini I Application No
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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT					
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A	WEAVER KEITH E ET AL: "Functional analysis of the Enterococcus faecalis plasmid pAD1-encoded stability determinant par" MOLECULAR MICROBIOLOGY, vol. 20, no. 1, 1996, pages 53-63, XP008046813 ISSN: 0950-382X the whole document				
A	WO 02/079467 A (KOEBENHAVNS UNIVERSITET; NIELSEN, PETER, E; GOOD, LIAM) 10 October 2002 (2002-10-10) the whole document				
Α	WILLIAMS S G ET AL: "Repressor titration: A novel system for selection and stable maintenance of recombinant plasmids" NUCLEIC ACIDS RESEARCH, OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS, SURREY, GB, vol. 26, no. 9, 1 May 1998 (1998-05-01), pages 2120-2124, XP002253526 ISSN: 0305-1048 cited in the application the whole document				
Α	ZIELENKIEWICZ URSZULA ET AL: "Mechanisms of plasmid stable maintenance with special focus on plasmid addiction systems" ACTA BIOCHIMICA POLONICA, vol. 48, no. 4, 2001, pages 1003-1023, XP002327900 ISSN: 0001-527X the whole document				
A	DELIHAS N: "REGULATION OF GENE EXPRESSION BY TRANS-ENCODED ANTISENSE RNAS" MOLECULAR MICROBIOLOGY, BLACKWELL SCIENTIFIC, OXFORD, GB, vol. 15, no. 3, 1995, pages 411-414, XP001029329 ISSN: 0950-382X the whole document				

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